

REPORT TO MAYORAL FORUM

SUSTAINABLE AUCKLAND PROGRAMME OF ACTION

Reporting from : CEO Forum: Sustainable Auckland Steering Group
Date : 11 July 2003

SUMMARY

The government has put the spotlight on Auckland through its Sustainable Development Programme of Action, released in January 2003. The Government is looking for action that will inspire confidence that there is a clear vision for Auckland's future, and determined courses of action to make sure we are on a sustainable track. The Ministers responsible for the programme of action are Hon Marion Hobbs (Urban Affairs and Environment) and Hon Jim Anderton (Regional Development), who presented to the Forum earlier this year.

The Government's challenge comes at a time when Councils, collectively and individually, are charged with developing Long-Term Council Community Plans (LTCCPs) that will somehow encompass the aspirations of the communities of the region. Doing this efficiently will require collaboration, which must in turn be formalised through a triennial agreement between local Councils and the Auckland Regional Council.

Creating an umbrella view of the vision, objectives and strategies for the Auckland Region necessarily involves reviewing the relationships between LTCCPs, the Regional Growth Strategy, the Regional Land Transport Strategy, the Regional Economic Development Strategy and the emerging programme of action for Auckland under the Sustainable Development banner.

Related to all of the above is the need to review the Auckland-specific provisions of the Local Government Act to ensure that the legislation provides an appropriate framework for sustainable development.

A regional Sustainable Development steering group has been formed by the CEO Forum to bring together the various threads of work described above, and to work collaboratively with government officials. The terms of reference and membership of the group is attached in Appendix A

Auckland's Sustainable Development steering group meets monthly with an equivalent officials group from central government. The Government's Sustainable Development steering group is chaired by Alison Datzief of the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Together, the Auckland and Wellington steering groups are also working to identify a small number of collaborative projects that will make a significant impact in important areas, and provide inspirational and practical demonstrations of sustainable development in action. A list of the emerging project candidates is attached in Appendix B.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Mayoral Forum receives and endorses this report.
2. That the CEO Forum report regularly on the activities of the steering group, with early emphasis on the identification of collaborative projects addressing significant issues, for consideration by the Mayoral Forum.
3. That this report be presented to all local authorities in the Region for their information and support.

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APPENDIX A

Sustainable Auckland Steering Group Terms of Reference

The CEO Forum, working with central government, will advise the Mayoral Forum and Councils on actions that could be taken in relation to the Sustainable Cities strand of the Government's Sustainable Development Programme of Action. In order to provide this advice, the CEO Forum has established a Sustainable Auckland steering group. The steering group will undertake a programme of work to enable Councils to achieve the following things:

Joint Programme of Action

- (i) Prioritise a list of potential projects that the region could work in partnership with central government using pragmatic decision criteria;
- (ii) Negotiate a shortlist of signature projects with central government for the joint programme of action and scope these into project briefs with their indicative resources by the end of this financial year;
- (iii) Review the Auckland-specific provisions of the Local Government Act and make recommendations to central government;

Framework

- (iv) Identify the process that would lead to a vision and long-term plan for a sustainable Auckland region that builds on the Government's sustainable development strategy and principles and the Local Government Act;
- (v) Design a framework to decide what activities are best managed locally versus what is managed regionally; and what is best undertaken in partnership with central government;
- (vi) Ensure that this framework and principles are reflected in a formal triennial agreement between Auckland local authorities and the Auckland Regional Council, and in all other strategic documents, both regional and local;
- (vii) Define the components of a strong partnership between local government and central government and set these out in an appropriate formal relationship instrument.

Integration

- (viii) Build on the momentum of existing projects and processes to ensure alignment and successful implementation in considering signature projects and developing a regional work programme;
- (ix) Establish a regional work programme that has been shaped by applying the framework and principles for what activities are best managed locally versus what is managed regionally; and what is best undertaken in partnership with central government;
- (x) Complete the above such that recommendations can be reflected in plans that are operational from 1 July 2004.

Sustainable Auckland Steering Group

CEO Forum Representatives

Colin Dale (Chair)	Manukau City Council
Ann Magee	Waitakere City Council
Ann Prendergast	North Shore City Council
Catherine Taylor	Auckland City Council
Chris Worth	Franklin District Council
Jacques Victor	Rodney District Council
Kathy Garden	Manukau City Council
Louise Marra	Auckland Regional Council
Peter Casey	Infrastructure Auckland
Theresa Stratton	Papakura District Council

Central Government Representatives

Alison Dalziel (Chair)	Dept of the Prime Minister & Cabinet
Celia Fullerton-Smith	State Services Commission
Chris Harrington	Dept of the Prime Minister & Cabinet
Dave Brash	Ministry for the Environment
Elise Webster	Ministry of Transport
Guy Beatson	Ministry of Economic Development
Kate Goodfellow	Ministry of Economic Development
Louise Mason	Ministry of Social Development
Rob Brown	Ministry of Social Development
Robert McShane	Department of Internal Affairs
Rosalind Plimmer	Department of Internal Affairs
Sharon Nelson-Kelly	Ministry for the Environment

Also

Peter Winder	Local Government New Zealand
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APPENDIX B

Emerging Project Candidates

Overall comment:

A smaller group reviewed the two clusters of projects in the transport/urban design and city building areas. The group defined a small number of emerging project candidates that at first (regarding criteria) were worthy of further specification.

In undertaking their analysis they came to a number of other conclusions:

- The steering group needs to take an overview interest in other regional outcomes that are crucial to sustainability e.g. economic development, transport more generally (though noting that these current work-streams will also be addressing sustainability).
- The more short-term task of agreeing a common short-term work programme with central government should not distract from the region taking a longer-term collaborative approach in addressing the region's sustainability (and embedding a strategic development approach to local government activities).

Proposed long list:

1. Urban development and the design of sustainable buildings

- Outcome: Buildings and their urban design meet sustainable standards.
Location and features of buildings meet best practice sustainable urban design.
- Milestones: Set robust sustainable building standards by building examples (possible in collaboration with HCNZ).
- Participants: MFE, MED, MDE, Building Sector, FRST and LG.

2. Implement travel demand options to reduce inefficient use of vehicles (cars/public transport)

- Outcome: Reduce dependency on cars as a mode of transport.
Reduce congestion and accidents.
Improve air quality.
- Milestones: A region-wide policy agreed with the Ministry of Education and education providers to increase the use of TDM.
Establish a demonstration initiative that implements the policy.
Set up a process for monitoring and evaluating the agreed policy.
- Participants: MOE, education providers, LTSA, MOT and Treasury.

3. Clean air – reduce vehicle emissions

- Outcome: Improved air quality and health outcomes.
- Milestones: Set outcome targets.
Introduce a system of vehicle accreditation and WOF standards to include emission standards.
Set up a demonstration initiative that illustrates the new policy.
- Participants: MOT, MOH, HRC, MFE(CC), LG and WOF providers.

4. Sustainability practice: community engagement

- Outcome: Community (neighbourhood/households) understand sustainability and practice it in a holistic way.
Community (neighbourhood/households) are supported by central and local government in practising sustainability.
- Milestones: Investigate the concept and pilot a comprehensive programme.
Develop a simple framework and toolkit.
Set up a demonstration initiative that illustrates a neighbourhood holistic approach to sustainability.
- Participants: LG, MSD, MOE, MFE, MOH and HCNZ.

5. Corporate Sustainability practice: Local and Central Government

- Outcome: Local and Central Government understand sustainability and practice it in a holistic way in their policy and service delivery.
Local and central government develop corporate sustainability standards and promote
- Milestones: Investigate the concept and pilot a comprehensive programme.
Develop a simple framework and toolkit.
Set up a demonstration initiative in both central and local government that illustrates public sector holistic approach to sustainability.

Participants: All

6. Urban design and development: Public sector services and accessibility by transport

Outcome: The design of delivery of public sector services is shaped by sustainable urban design considerations.

Improve the accessibility to public sector services by public transport (and cycling, walking).

Milestones: Protocols of the urban design and transport accessibility are agreed. Protocols are marketed and their use and impact on outcomes evaluated. Set up a demonstrative project to illustrate use of the protocols.

Participants: LG, MFE, public sector providers, Treasury and SSC.

7. Community Safety

While outcomes and milestones are still being developed, this project is likely to include related issues and regional policy initiatives on:

- Migrants/settlement
- Child, youth and family

Action:

It is proposed that the CEO Forum come to a view on which one or two of the above project candidates have the best fit with our criteria. Also to seek the engagement of the Wellington team on this, with recommendations to the local authorities of the Auckland Region through the Mayoral Forum.
